CLAIMS:

1. A finishing composition comprising a mixture of abrasive particles and an emulsion, wherein:

the emulsion comprises water, a volatile siloxane, and a lubricant; and

the finishing composition is substantially free of non-volatile silicone materials.

2. The finishing composition of claim 1, wherein the volatile siloxane constitutes about 3-20% by weight of the finishing composition.

3. The finishing composition of claim 1, wherein the volatile siloxane comprises a volatile cyclic siloxane.

4. The finishing composition of claim 3, wherein the volatile cyclic siloxane is selected from a group consisting of octamethylcyclictetrasiloxane, decamethylcyclicpentasiloxane, dodecamethylcyclichexasiloxane, and combinations thereof.

5. The finishing composition of claim 1, wherein the finishing composition further comprises a volatile hydrocarbon solvent.

6. The finishing composition of claim 1, wherein the abrasive particles have an average particle size of about one-hundred micrometers or less.

7. The finishing composition of claim 1, wherein the abrasive particles is selected from a group consisting of aluminum oxide, silica, alumina silicates, silicon carbides, and combinations thereof.

8. The finishing composition of claim 7, wherein the volatile siloxane comprises a volatile cyclic siloxane.

9. The finishing composition of claim 1 wherein:

the water constitutes about 10 to about 60% by weight of the finishing composition;

the volatile siloxane constitutes about 3 to about 20% by weight of the finishing composition;

the lubricant constitutes about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of the finishing composition; and

the abrasive particles constitute about 1 to about 60% by weight of the finishing composition.

10. The finishing composition of claim 9 wherein:

the water constitutes about 30 to about 50% by weight of the finishing composition;

the volatile siloxane constitutes about 5 to about 10% by weight of the finishing composition;

the lubricant constitutes about 1 to about 5% by weight of the finishing composition; and

the abrasive particles constitute about 3 to about 50% by weight of the finishing composition.

11. The finishing composition of claim 10, wherein the volatile siloxane comprises a volatile cyclic siloxane.

12. A finishing composition comprising:

a volatile cyclic siloxane;

a non-silicone-based lubricant;

a thickening agent;

a volatile hydrocarbon solvent;

water;

an emulsifier effective to create a stable emulsion comprising the volatile cyclic siloxane; and

aluminum oxide particles;

with the proviso that the finishing composition is substantially free of non-volatile silicone materials.

13. The finishing composition of claim 12, wherein the volatile cyclic siloxane is selected from a group consisting of octamethylcyclictetrasiloxane, decamethylcyclicpentasiloxane, dodecamethylcyclichexasiloxane, and combinations thereof.

14. The finishing composition of claim 12 wherein:

the volatile siloxane constitutes about 3 to about 20% by weight of the finishing composition;

the lubricant constitutes about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of the finishing composition;

the thickening agent constitutes about 0.2 to about 5% by weight of the finishing composition;

the volatile hydrocarbon solvent constitutes about 5 to about 17% by weight of the finishing composition;

water constitutes about 10 to about 60% by weight of the finishing composition;

the emulsifier constitutes about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of the finishing composition; and

the abrasive particles constitute about 1 to about 60% by weight of the finishing composition.

15. A method of making a composition, said method comprising:

combining a mixture of water, a volatile siloxane, a non-silicone-based lubricant, and an emulsifier to form an emulsion, wherein the emulsifier is effective to create a stable emulsion; and

mixing abrasive particles into the emulsion to form the composition, with the proviso that there is a substantial absence of non-volatile silicone materials from the ingredients used in making the composition.

16. A method of finishing a surface, said method comprising:

applying a finishing composition on the surface, wherein the finishing composition comprises water, abrasive particles, a volatile siloxane, a non-silicone-based lubricant, and an emulsifier effective to create a stable emulsion; and

allowing the volatile siloxane to substantially evaporate from the surface and leave a remaining portion of the finishing composition on the surface, wherein the remaining portion of the finishing composition is substantially free of oily residue,

provided that the finishing composition is substantially free of non-volatile silicone materials.